

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

1910 Sycamore View Rd
Bartlett, TN 38134
(901) 574-9552

Web: www.zambiamissions.org

David & Lorie French

P.O. Box 350070
Lusaka, Zambia (Africa)
zambiamissions@gmail.com

April 2024



There was a serious and widespread outbreak of **cholera** in Zambia, which led the government to delay the start of the new school year for six weeks. Thankfully, this did not include colleges, so we were able to start on time at the Bible College. This did, however, affect our Primary School as classes were not able to begin until mid-February.

If that wasn't enough, **Zambia did not have a good rainy season this year** (which just ended this month). This means that there will be a huge loss in food production this year. Prices will now skyrocket, and many people will go hungry this next year. This, in turn, will hurt the economy in Zambia. So, here is something to pray about. The next 12 months (if not longer) are going to be a difficult time in Zambia. We may complain about inflation in the USA, but we don't realize how blessed we really are.

Daybreak Bible College.

We appear to have another good crop of Freshmen students this year. They have now all planted their **gardens** and are now starting to harvest fresh vegetables using drip-irrigation (which is not affected by the lack of rain). We are now only one month away from the end of the first semester. Below are Freshmen planting their gardens.



We are now making plans for our **first Lectureship** at Daybreak Bible College (DBC). We had made plans to do this in 2020, but COVID disrupted our plans. Now that the threat of COVID has passed, we have now scheduled our first lectureship for the weekend of Aug 3-5, 2024.

The theme for this lectureship is "**ADVANCING THE KINGDOM OF GOD.**" We are now lining up speakers and advertising the event throughout all of Zambia. Thayer Salisbury (American missionary living in Eswatini) is one who has agreed to come. He will also teach a two-week class following the lectureship.

Although the lectureship will be for anyone who wants to attend, our **primary purpose** is to provide an event that will encourage our past students to come so that we might encourage them and learn more about how well they are doing.

Communication in Zambia is very difficult and expensive, so it has been difficult to get news from our past graduates. We want to know how they are doing so that we can gain better insight into how well we are preparing them for ministry in Zambia.

Primary School - Scholarships.

We are still needing people to **consider sponsoring a child** (scholarship) so that they can attend our Primary School in Zambia. Many of the children coming to our school are too poor and cannot afford to pay the modest tuition that we charge. The actual cost for a child to attend our school is about **\$16.50 per month** (which includes two meals per day). None of the children attending our school can afford this tuition, so we have lowered the tuition to \$3.00 per month. Yet even this amount is beyond the ability of many families to pay. They are simply too poor to pay just \$3.00 per month!

Thus, we have developed a way for families to apply for **reduced tuition** (involving a home study and interview). We do, however, insist that everyone pays something. So, in actual fact, we basically are needing a scholarship for every one of the 200 children attending our school. At the top of the next page is a picture of some of the children who are getting either a 50% or 75% reduction in their school tuition of \$3.00.

If you would like to sponsor a scholarship (\$16.50), you can do so by going to our webpage ([click here](#)) and clicking on the orange donate button (top left corner); or you can mail a check to Zambia Missions, 1910 Sycamore View Rd, Bartlett, TN 37134 (just write "ACA scholarship" on the memo line).



Kerin's Kids (Childrens Ministry).

Kerin became very sick the weekend of March 9. We thought it must be malaria as the symptoms were typical for malaria. On the following Monday, she became seriously dehydrated and was admitted to the hospital. The doctors ran several tests and even consulted with an infectious disease specialist in Europe, but they were never able to determine what had caused her to get sick. All they know is that it wasn't malaria or COVID.

She spent the week in the hospital and slowly recovered enough that she was able to go home on Friday. Thanks to all of you who prayed for her after we posted news on Facebook (to follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/zambia.frenches).

I am not sure everyone is aware of how important Kerin has become to our ministry in Zambia. Kerin has lived in Zambia for 20 years (since she was 16 years old). She has only been back to the USA for two short visits since 2008. As many of you know, she started "Kerin's Kids" (children's ministry) about 15 years ago -- a ministry that has saved the lives of more than 300 babies.

But Kerin has now taken on a great deal more responsibility. She has become our Chief Administrator and Financial Officer. She basically oversees all operations on campus and oversees all the financial matters pertaining to running the ministry in Zambia, making sure there is no corruption or misappropriation of funds. When I am here in the U.S., Kerin is the person seeing that everything is operating as it should be. Kerin is the first person I talk to every morning when I get up (using WhatsApp). She has become a vital part of our ministry in Zambia.

Primary School (Aurora Christian Academy)

As mentioned above, the start of the new school year for our Primary School was delayed six months due to cholera. Nevertheless, we were able to start school on Feb 12 and were excited to welcome the first Grade 8 students. Pictured to the right (top) is a picture of our first Grade 8 students who are standing in front of the newly constructed Grade 8 and 9 classrooms. Next year (Jan 2025) we will add Grade 9 as the current Grade 8 students (with a few additional new students) graduate to Grade 9. The second picture (right) is a picture of our new Science Lab (which is required for Grades 8 and 9).



Pictured below is a picture of our Primary School (picture was taken from a drone).



The Primary School held a talent show on our campus this past month. Many of the students participated in this event. Some sang songs, some acted out a skit, some showed off some of their artwork, and others performed a tribal dance. These events are important as they build a sense of community among the students and between us and the community.

